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E. O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: MASS, MOPS, IR, IZ, XF
SUBJECT: IRAN-IRAQ WAR: CHINESE SUPPLY OF ANTI-SHIP
MISSILES TO IRAN

REF: A. ANKARA 10153 B. STATE 303436

1. SECRET ENTIRE TEXT.

2. THE AUGUST 26 "WASHINGTON POST" ARTICLE DOES NOT
MENTION THE SILKWOOD MISSILES SPECIFICALLY BUT DOES REFER
TO CHINESE SALES TO IRAN OF VARIOUS TYPES OF MISSILES.
INCLUDING ANTI-SHIP MISSILES.

3. BUT WE ARE PROVIDING THE FOLLOWING SUMMARY
FOR THEIR USE.

3. THE ARTICLE STATES THAT OVER THE PAST SIX MONTHS THE
CHINESE HAVE REPLACED THE NORTH KOREANS AS IRAN'S LARGEST
ARMS SUPPLIER. AT LEAST \$300 MILLION WORTH OF
SURFACE-TO-AIR MISSILES, ANTI-SHIP MISSILES, AND OTHER
MILITARY EQUIPMENT HAVE BEEN DELIVERED TO IRAN FROM THE
PRC. IN ADDITION, THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR
STRATEGIC STUDIES IS REPORTING THAT CHINA AND IRAN SIGNED
IN MARCH 1985 A \$1.6 BILLION AGREEMENT IN WHICH TEHRAN

WILL RECEIVE 16 FIGHTERS (SIMILAR TO THE MIG21), T-59
TANKS, HEAVY ARTILLERY, MULTIPLE ROCKET LAUNCHERS AND
SURFACE-TO-AIR MISSILES.

4. AS REQUESTED, WE ARE POUCHING A COPY OF THIS ARTICLE
TO YOU. WHITEHEAD

B1AS

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

IS/FPC/CDR SJ

Date: 4/15/92

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